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(57) Abstract: A novel human dipeptidyl aminopeptidase (DPP8) with structural and functional similarities to DPPIV and fibroblast activation protein (FAP) has been identified and characterized. The novel peptide comprises the sequence ID NO: 1, the amino acid sequences His 746 GlyTrpSerTyrGlyGlyTyrLeu, Leut 16 AspGluAsnValHisPheAlaHis, Gln 47 ArgHisSerTleArg. PhensValLeuGinGluGluPhe, or a sequence having at least 60 % homology with, and the substrate specificity of SEQ ID NO:1. A gene encoding the dipeptidyl peptidase and uses of the dipeptidyl peptidase.